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Docket No. 448563/0163  
LR:JFD

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants : Minoru Usui et al.  
Serial No. : 09/312,073 ✓ Group: 2861  
Filed : May 13, 1999 Examiner: M. Nghiem  
For : INK CARTRIDGE FOR INK-JET PRINTING  
APPARATUS

February 28, 2002

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
and  
STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97(e)**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants respectfully submit this Information Disclosure Statement ("IDS") pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98 in order to comply with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56. This IDS cites Japanese Patent Publication JP 8224894, cited during the prosecution of Japanese patent application 11-133445. A copy of JP 8224894 is attached. Also attached, for the Examiner's convenience, is a copy of U.S. Patent No. 5,661,510, which is related to JP 8224894.

<p align="center"><b>Certificate of Mailing (37 C.F.R. 1.8)</b></p> <p>I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: <i>Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231</i>, on (Date) <u>February 28, 2002</u>. Typed or printed name of person signing this certificate: <u>James Dobrow</u> Signature: _____</p>
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In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is Directed to the document listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner make these citations of record in the subject application.

Applicant respectfully submits that this IDS is being properly filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d) as it is being filed after a final action under Section 1.113, but is being accompanied by both the Statement specified by 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) and the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

Specifically, a Statement as specified by 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) is included herein. Additionally, authorization to pay the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is given by a Fee Transmittal for FY 2002 filed concurrently herewith.

Authorization is hereby given to charge any fee deficiencies to Deposit Account No. 19-4709.

Early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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**STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.979e)**

I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than 3 months prior to the filing of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,



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